News release

Tuesday's highest temperature

19 July 2006

Yesterday's highest temperature in the UK was at Wisley, near Woking in Surrey, where a reading of 33.3 °C was recorded.

Met Office forecasters are expecting the highest temperatures of the year today (Wednesday). There is a 70% chance of the UK July record being broken (the record is currently 36 °C at Epsom in 1911) and the most favoured spots are still expected to be around the south-west Midlands.

The Welsh record for July of 33.6 °C at Usk in 1976 is certain to tumble, with the all-time Welsh record of 35.2 °C also under threat. North-western parts of Wales are most favoured.

For Scotland, local maxima of 31-32 °C are expected today, just short of the July record of 32.8 °C at Dumfries in 1908. It is a similar story for Northern Ireland where maxima of 29 °C are forecast, just lower than the July record of 30.8 °C in 1983 at Belfast.

UK record temperatures

	July record			All-time record		
England	36.0 °C	Epsom	22/07/1911	38.5 °C	Faversham	10/08/2003
Wales	33.6 °C	Usk	3/07/1976	35.2 °C	Hawarden Bridge	2/08/1990
Scotland	32.8 °C	Dumfries	2/07/1908	32.9 °C	Greycrook	9/08/2003
Northern Ireland	30.8 °C	Belfast	12/07/1983	30.8 °C 30.8 °C	Knockarevan Belfast	30/06/1976 12/07/1983

How do we know the highest temperature?
The Met Office collects data from a variety of official sites around the UK and only at 0900 GMT (1000 local time), once all the data has been received and verified by the Met Office, are we able to state officially what the highest temperature was the previous day.

Latest forecast for the UK

Met Office Heat-Health watch

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